

B.I.R.D. Bird Information Research and Data

2020 Program Report

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation

2020 BIRD Research Projects (on-going since)

1. Long-term Fall Migration Bird Banding (1982): 287 captures, with 24 recaptures. First Pine Siskins captured since 1990
2. Long-term Winter Bird Banding (1983): 450 captures with 306 recaptures
3. Long-term Spring Migration Bird Banding (1983): cancelled due to Covid restrictions
4. Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship (MAPS, 1991): continent-wide research with Institute of Bird Populations, 65 captures of 18 species with 16 recaptures. Our 30th year
5. Breeding Bird Survey (1985): 43 bird species observed
6. Bluebird Nesting Box (1936): Despite missing first clutch due to Covid restrictions, banded 79 bluebird nestlings & 2 adults, 13 adult recaptures. Also 5 Carolina Wren young and 3 Tree Swallow nests that fledged 16 young
7. Purple Martin Nest Box (2002): 11 of 12 active nests & banded 46 nestlings
8. WPNC Hummingbird Banding (2002): 72 new captures & 3 recaptures
9. Metro Hummingbird Banding Projects at Bells Bend (2009), Beaman and Shelby Bottoms (2011): 71 new & 3 recapture
10. Project FeederWatch (1997): Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon. Completed the 2019/2020 season in April and launched the 2020/2021 season in November 2020
11. eBird (2015): Cornell Lab of Ornithology & National Audubon. 49 species banding station, seen & heard with 98 species
12. iNaturalist (2018): Warner Park Biodiversity Project with banded species highlighted. Limited data submitted due to Covid
13. Bird Genoscape (2015): UCLA Center for Tropical Research to map migratory routes. No samples submitted due to Covid
14. Fall, Winter, Spring, Christmas Bird Counts (1927): Nashville Chapter of Tennessee Ornithological Society to assess long-term populations trends
15. Barn Swallow Project (2018): Park-wide survey found 69 active nests, contributes to the iNaturalist Swallow Tracker Project. Summer BIRD intern assessed reproductive success & banded 56 nestlings at the Steeplechase
16. Motus (2019): Telemetry study to understand bird movements and life history. Installed the 1st dual receiver station in Tennessee. During the fall season, attached 21 LifeTag transmitters as part of our thrush stopover & fidelity study. Core member of the TN Motus Cooperative
17. Northern Saw-whet Owl Migration (2007-2009, 2012, 2020): Captured our first saw-whet since 2007— a beautiful second-year bird



BIRD Program by the #s	2020
Research Projects	16 Projects with Motus new, Saw-whet Owls reinstated, no Bird Genoscape this year
Bird Banding Station	39th year—ongoing since 1982
Birds banded	52 banding sessions and 1,212 birds captured (110 more than last year) with 388 recaptures
Eastern Bluebirds	79 bluebird nestlings & 2 adults banded, 13 adults recaptured
Ruby-throated Hummingbirds	143 hummingbirds banded & 11 recaptured at Warner, Shelby, Bells, & Beaman
Purple Martins	46 martin nestlings banded, 30 adults observed who used 11 of the 12 available gourds
Breeding Bird Survey	36th consecutive year with 43 bird species seen or heard
Barn Swallows	56 swallow nestlings banded at Steeplechase, 64 nests found during park-wide survey
Motus & Life Tag Transmitters	1 receiver station, 1 foreign Tree Swallow detection, 21 Life Tags deployed on 4 species of thrush
Migration Bird Counts	TN Ornithological Society Spring Bird Count with 60 species, Fall Bird Count with 48 species
Winter woodpeckers	51 Downy Woodpeckers (13 new, 38 recap) & 11 Red-bellied Woodpeckers (3 new and 8 recap)
Last banding session of the Fall	83 birds in 3hrs including 8 Pine Siskins. Our last net run had over 50 birds
Recaptures	32% of total birds were recaptures. Most of these during winter banding where 68% were recaps
Visitors and Programs	Engaged with 2,982 park patrons during 53 banding sessions and several virtual programs
Hummingbird Celebration	1,993 attended virtually and raised over \$9k. FOWP & WPNC staff, & volunteers made it happen
BIRD Volunteers	61 volunteers contributed approximately 1,500 volunteer hours
Partner Organizations	15 research partners & we hosted the TN Bird Conservation Partnership meeting
New Federal Permits	1 Auxiliary permit for Motus, 1 sub-permit for Rachel Anderson, 1 master permit for Denise Weyer
BIRD Intern	5th summer with a BIRD Intern Perri Haga funded by Lipscomb University's Biology Department
BIRD Staff	2 part-time staff fully-funded by Friends of Warner Parks

2020 BIRD Volunteers

Thank you to this dedicated & expert team of **72 volunteers** who contributed **1,485 hours** to make these BIRD programs and projects possible:

Kathy Shaw	Carolyn Stevens	Janeth McKendrick	Meriel O'Conner
Diana McLusky	Cathy Barker	Jean Louis Barnes	Mike Berkley
Susan Bradfield	Charlotte Barnes	JoAnn Scalf	Nancy Cole
Ethel Kawamura	Cheryl Brummal	John Carreau	Paula Flynn
John Kell	Cody Cook	John Clifton	Perri Haga
Leah LaRocco	Cynthia Lee	Jordan Jurnisky	Rachel Anderson
Patty Ghertner	Cynthia Routledge	Karen White	Rebecca Dandekar
Justin Hiltner	Daniel Carleton	Kathy VonArb	Samantha Olivera-Mejia
Emily Moorman	Dr. John Lewis	Katie Buchholtz	Steve Ghertner
Sandy Bivens	Eleanor Koch	Katie Doyle	Sue Shallow
Alan Plummer	Elie Haislit	Kim Bailey	Susan O'Neill
Amy Pardo	Elizabeth Cook	Laura Cook	Tahira Moyhuddin
Annalee Joy Grimsley	Graham Gerdeman	Laurie Campbell	Terri Barnes
Bekah Caldwell	Hannah Rowling	Leah Rubino	Terry Cook
Beth Adams	Heather Gallagher	Margie Hunter	Toni Rogers
Beth Preston	Jamie Bacon	Matt Jenkins	Vera Roberts
Brandee Moore	Jan Shaw	Melissa Donahue	Virginia Barnes



The bluebird team (top). Volunteer Susan Bradfield shares knowledge and wonder with park visitors (bottom)

2020 BIRD Program Highlights

- The BIRD Program engaged 2,982 park visitors at our banding station, virtual webinars, social-distanced bird hikes, and the successful Virtual Hummingbird Celebration which helped to raise critical funds for the program.
- WPNC & BIRD hosted the Tennessee Bird Conservation Partnership meeting, a consortium of bird researchers across the state.
- For the 5th consecutive year in partnership with Lipscomb University, hosted summer BIRD intern Perri Haga who studied Barn Swallow nesting success at the Steeplechase and helped with our park-wide swallow survey.
- Thanks to Ben Armistead, in July we opened the Sandy Bivens Bird Garden; designed by Tara Armistead with a beautiful water feature by Chris Agee, a variety of bird feeding stations, and plants native to Warner Parks.
- After a year of construction, the Milbrey Warner Waller Library & Sandy Bivens Bird Education Classroom opened in July thanks to a generous donation from Susan O'Neill. We look forward to welcoming students and visitors soon.
- Completed our 30th year of MAPS, Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship a continent-wide research program. A special thank you to Kathy Shaw & Sandy Bivens for coordinating this project.
- Significant progress on digitizing field sheets & databases for new banded and recaptured birds thanks to staff & volunteers.
- Motus, an international research network using coordinated automated radio telemetry to study landscape-scale movements of animals. Thanks to a grant from the Barbara J. Mapp Foundation, the BIRD installed the state's first dual receiver station, deployed 21 Life Tag transmitters on 4 species of thrush, & contributed to the Tennessee Motus Cooperative.
- A winter irruption with more birds moving further south during the fall & winter months has resulted in our first capture of a Northern Saw-whet Owl since 2007 and our first Pine Siskins capture since 1990.
- A special thank you to Friends of Warner Parks, Nashville Metro Parks and Recreation, and Warner Park Nature Center for their continued support of the BIRD Program!

2020 BIRD Program Supporters & Partners

Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation
Tara & Ben Armistead
The Mapp Foundation
Susan O'Neill
The Wood Thrush Shop
Artist Collective
Rachel Anderson
Sara Beth Bivens
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Erin & Keith Hiller
National Certified Alarms
Cathy Barker
Gina Caldwell
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